



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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BROOKS ANNOUNCES OPENING OF ONTARIO BEACH FOR SWIMMING

County Executive Maggie Brooks announced that supervised swimming for the 2004 season starts this Saturday, June 19, at Monroe County's Ontario Beach Park. Monroe County lifeguards will patrol the beach daily through Labor Day, Monday, September 6, 2004. Swimming hours are 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

"Ontario Beach Park is a very popular sand beach in Monroe County with lifeguards provided for safer swimming," said Brooks. "We are fortunate to have this wonderful recreational resource within easy access."

For the health and safety of all swimmers, the Monroe County Health Department monitors the water quality of Lake Ontario each day. This allows for up-to-date water analysis and daily issuance of beach openings and/or closings. **The public may call 274-6887 for recorded information on current water quality conditions.**

Reasons for occasional beach closings include an abundance of algae in the water, excessive rainfall and/or high bacteria counts. Decaying algae can cause bacteria counts to rise. In addition, excessive amounts of algae impede the vision of lifeguards from seeing swimmers that may need help. Heavy rainfall results in a high volume of muddy water draining into the lake from the Genesee River. Beach conditions can then be affected if winds out of the northeast push the river output toward the swimming area.

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Media Inquiry, Contact:

Department of Communications at 428-2380

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